

Independent Education Evaluation (IEE) FAQ's



WHAT IS MEANT BY THE TERM “INDEPENDENT EDUCATION EVALUATION”?

Federal regulations define IEE as “An evaluation conducted by a qualified examiner who is not employed by the public agency responsible for the education of the child in question.”

WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR IEE?

Under IDEA, a child with a disability has the right to an IEE if the child's parents disagree with an evaluation conducted by the Local Education Agency (LEA)

WHO PAYS FOR AN IEE?

The Local Education Agency (LEA) pays for IEEs

WHAT TRIGGERS A PARENT’S RIGHT TO OBTAIN AN IEE FOR THE CHILD AT THE LEA’S EXPENSE?

A parent’s right to obtain an IEE at the LEA’s expense is triggered if the parent disagrees with an evaluation initiated by the LEA



WHAT STANDARD SHOULD BE USED WHEN MAKING A DETERMINATION ABOUT WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO CONDUCT AN IEE?

IDEA doesn’t establish a standard for determining who can conduct an IEE. The law allows for each LEA to set criteria for determining whether an IEE can be obtained at the LEA’s expense

FAQ's Cont.



WHO CHOOSES THE EVALUATOR?

Parents can choose the evaluator from a list that the LEA provides. However, if the LEA's list does not exhaust the evaluators who are "minimally qualified to evaluate the unique needs of every child in the district" the parent can choose an evaluator who is not on the list.

DOES A PARENT HAVE TO NOTIFY THE DISTRICT ABOUT THE DISAGREEMENT BEFORE OBTAINING AN IEE?

There is no federal requirement that a parent must notify the LEA of the disagreement with the districts evaluation before obtaining an IEE at the LEA's expense. The LEA is responsible to pay regardless if they notified the district.

HOW MANY IEE'S CAN A PARENT SEEK?

A parent is entitled to only one IEE at the LEA's expense.

DOES A DISTRICT HAVE TO PAY FOR THE TRAVEL COSTS OR RELATED COSTS FOR THE ATTENDANCE OR ARRANGEMENT OF THE IEE

If a child needs to be evaluated out-of-district for an IEE the LEA "may be required to pay for the expenses incurred by the parent for travel or other related costs" If the LEA believes the costs are unreasonable the LEA can file for due process

WHO PAYS FOR THE IEE IF EVALUATOR CHOSEN IS NOT ON LEA'S LIST?

The LEA must allow parents to justify the selection of the evaluator. If justified, the LEA must fund the IEE. If they do not think the evaluator is qualified or justified the district may file for due process rather than pay for the IEE.